THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Jammu-Udhampur rail link project was started in 1982 and is in advanced stage of completion.

(b) and (c) The work had been awarded to the agencies after following proper rules and procedures. Specific comments cannot be given as the name of companies are not known.

(d) The project is expected to be completed during 2003-2004.

Amount payable by the Railways to IISCO

1010. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of approximately Rs. 10.34 crore is payable to Indian Iron and Steel Company by the Railways including Central, Northern, North Eastern, Eastern Railways etc.;

(b) whether a sum of Rs. 18.84 crore is also payable by the South Eastern Railway to Indian Iron and Steel Company, as on 31st December, 2000 as per the award given by the arbitrator; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Railways to clear the dues, in view of the acute financial crisis of Indian Iron and Steel Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir. An amount of Rs. 98.35 lakh only is payable by the following: Railways/units:—

Northern Railway	-	Rs. 73.65 lakh
North Eastern Railway	-	Rs. 21.97 lakh
Diesel Locomotive Works	-	Rs. 2.73 lakh
Total Rs.	-	**98.35 lakh**

(b) and (c) The matter is currently under examination.